# Proclamation

## Whereas,

## Robert G. Burns

has enjoyed a distinguished and successful career as football coach at Yankton High School, Sioux Falls Washington High School, Augustana College, University of South Dakota, Sioux Falls Bantam League, and O'Gorman High School; and

## Whereas,

his high school teams have attracted nationwide attention as a result of:

their long win streaks without loss;

conference championships;

victories over top ranked teams in the states of Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, and South Dakota;

having proved that a wet field does indeed slow a speedy team;

having his O'Gorman teams invited to play in every Dakota Bowl game since its inception; and

## Whereas,

his college teams have attracted nationwide attention as a result of:

their long loss streaks without win;

a North Central Conference championship;

victories over nationally ranked, previously unbeaten teams;

victories in 1956 over SDSU, USD, and Iowa Teachers, the powers of the North Central Conference, with essentially the same players as did not win a conference game the year before he became the coach; and

## Whereas,

during his coaching career he:

has openly and generously recognized his coaching staffs for their contributions; and he has always been quick to give his teams credit for successes and to accept for himself the responsibilities for failures;

has recognized and nurtured the strengths of his players, and hidden their weaknesses, both from the players themselves and from the opposition;

has exhibited an unequalled ability to motivate his teams consistently to a high level of performance, and to confuse the opposition in the press and on the field without at the same time confusing his own team;

has acquired a reputation among coaches throughout the nation for his knowledge of the game to the end that many have sought his instruction and have adopted his offensive concepts, but have left his pass defense for him alone; and

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## Whereas,

during his coaching career:

his teams have always provided the spectating public an exciting brand of football to watch, and he himself has always been an entertaining figure in public appearances, sportscasting excepted;

his players have been positively influenced, as a result of their associations with him, to seek and to find successes beyond the football field in their personal lives; and

## Whereas,

during his coaching career he:

has amassed this amazing record with a bare minimum of athletic talent and pugilistic skill, though he did experience more pugilistic success with opposition scouts than with Golden Glove opponents;

has brought honor and respect to his teams, his schools, his profession, his communities, to the State of South Dakota, to himself and to his family;

has provided his players with more memories to cherish than seems fair; and

## Whereas,

his players to a man, with one exception, profess open, unabashed love and affection for Coach Bob Burns.

## Now, therefore,

by the authority vested in me by law, I do proclaim Saturday, the 21st day of November, 1981, to be

# Bob Burns Day

and call upon all true sportsmen to honor and acknowledge the splendid contributions of Coach Bob Burns to athletics in general and to athletes in particular.

Dated this 21st day of November, 1981.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

William J. Janklow, Governor

Alice Kundert

Alice Kundert, Secretary of State

by Jay D. Vogt
Jay D. Vogt, Deputy

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